R.U.S.D. teachers may strike

by Damon Fries

Teachers rallied at the Richmond Unified School District's Board of Directors meeting at Helms Jr. High School last Tuesday, protesting oversized classrooms, inadequate supplies, and having not been offered an adequate raise.

Ernest Ciarrochi, the executive director of the United Teachers of Richmond, addressed the Board, stating that six percent of the school year has gone by, and teachers are being stuck with up to forty to fifty students in their classrooms as well as a longer school day, without any raise in pay.

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Ciarrochi went on to say that not only are the RUSD teachers the lowest paid in Contra Costa County, but are one of the lowest paid of the twenty largest districts in the state, and that salaries of Richmond teachers are up to $10,000 less than those of nearby districts.

Following Ciarrochi's address, Henry Clark, the head of Local 1, the classified workers union, delivered a rabble-rousingly agressive speech, bringing screams of agreement from the crowd. "We're tired of waiting for our turn," he yelled. "Our turn is now!" After stating that they were within one month of shutting down the district, he requested that a proposal be made by the

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Board. Following his fiercely effective speech, the teachers left.

The RUSD staff refused the 4% raise they were offered, to be effective October 1, arguing that the other districts were offering up to 9%. They are asking for wages that will bring them to competitive levels with other districts. Salaries in the RUSD range from $16,128 to $29,580, whereas other districts range up to $40,000.

The District is arguing that it would cost $600,000 to reduce class sizes district-wide by one student, and that without more state aid, this would be impossible.

Negotiations are currently being made.

VOLUME LXVIII NUMBER 1

EL CABALLERO

EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL September 27, 1985

EC undergoes staff changes

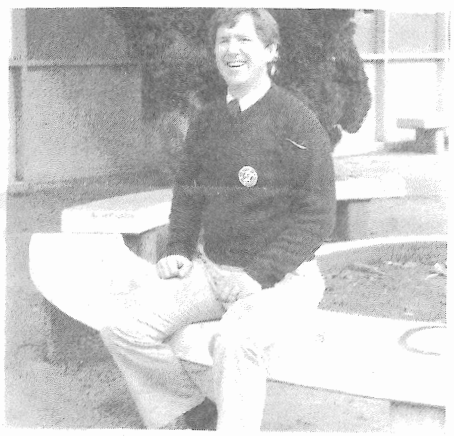
by Carol Tang

Once again, new faces are swarming all over El Cerrito High School. Not only the freshmen this year, but also new teachers, new student-teachers and even new deans. In fact, the ECHS administration has undergone many changes during our all-too-short summer vacation.

Ex-deans Mrs. Harari and Mr. Boles have both been promoted to to the positions of Instructional Vice-Principal and Administrative Vice-Principal. Mrs. Harari, though, has been transferred to Kennedy High School. Mr. Boles on the other hand, has stayed here at ECHS, where he has worked for 18 years. For that, he is very pleased, and is very excited about continuing his work here at EC, now as Administrative Vice-Principal.

Mr. Shaw is still Instructional Vice Principal, and both Mr. Shaw and Mr. Boles work together to co-ordinate activities, and help operate the school along with the rest of the administration. Mr. Boles feels that his job is to alleviate some of the pressure on Principal Mrs. Blackman. Specifically, Mr. Boles is in charge of extra-curricular activities, athletics, student government, activities, like rallies, evaluation of teachers, and much more.

Mr. Boles is "very enthused" about his new job, and looks upon this year as a learning and planning year. He has already dealt with some activities, like sports, but mostly this job gives him a chance to see a different aspect of ECHS that he hasn't had before.



Mr. Shaw is still Instructional Vice-Principal while Mr. Boles has been promoted to Administrative Vice-Principal.

Meet the new deans

by Tim Davis and Francesca Caramagno

This year we returned to find that Ms. Harari had left El Cerrito High to join the Kennedy staff as vice/principal and Mr.Boles gave up his deanship to be our new administrative vice/principal. These new changes brought two new deans to El Cerrito High, Ms.Wilbur and Mr.Abreu.

Ms.Wilbur came to E.C.H.S from Helms Jr.High where she was a-dean/counselor. Before that she taught at Adams and Crespi. At Helms, as a dean/counselor, Ms.Wilbur worked with both boys and girls and will continue to work this way at El Cerrito High which is something new this year. She feels that it is just as easy to relate with the boys as it is to relate with the girls, as long as they're mature.

Ms.Wilbur would much rather be out on campus meeting people than sitting behind a desk. She loves getting to know the students and having them come up and introduce themselves to her. However, she

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feels popularity (being liked by the most of the students) does not play a major part in being a good dean. Ms.Wilbur contemplates that if you treat the students with respect and vice versa, then you get the popularity that is rightfully yours. She also thinks that a lot depends on how the individual feels about deans.

Ms.Wilbur's views on discipline?

"I really like the Basic Commitment Policy. Students should pay attention to it and its even good for the deans. This way any penalty a student gets, he or she should know its coming." Ms Wilbur urges students to refer to their student handbooks for rules and penalties if those rules are broken.

All in all, Ms.Wilbur enjoys being a part of El Cerrito High School. She likes the administration and,"..the way students conduct themselves. The student body is very responsible."

Mr.Abreu, Ms.Wilbur's counterpart, is also happy at El Cerrito because of the school's spirit. He especially likes the fact that El Cerrito is a very traditional high school, whereas Richmond High, where he was a counselor/dean for the past 4 years, is not as traditional and not as spirited.

Mr.Abreu, like Ms.Wilbur, is impressed with the way students come up and introduce themselves and he says that the faculty here has made him feel very welcome.

Deans have probably never had a high rating on the popularity polls but to Mr.Abreu that doesn't matter. "I don't think popularity is essential for one to do a good job. If a dean does a fair, firm job, he can get respect rather than being well-liked."

When asked about the stress factor of his job, Abreu said that he likes to drive home and forget about his job. When he drives to school in the morning, that's

CONTINUED BACK PAGE

Students exchange cultures

by Judy Chang and Leslie Soo

Every year El Cerrito High has had foreign exchange students from all over the world. This year we are treated with students from Belgium, Peru, Yugoslavia, Finland, and Japan.

Beatrice Cozzi is one of many Europeans who wanted to visit America, however Beatrice is not an "official" exchange student. Since her father has many contacts in the U.S., he arranged for Beatrice to live with a host family, the Ericksons, for a year. As part of her visit here, she lived with other families in Los Angeles during the summer. According to Beatrice, "the weather down there is just great. I prefer the beach over downtown Los Angeles...it's much more relaxing. But I think the people up here are more friendlier, and I'd rather have friendly people and rainy weather."

Beatrice feels that the students here are more mature, and because of that she thinks teachers tend not to nag as much. Another difference is that the schools days are longer in Belgium. According to Beatrice, a student wouldn't necessarily have the same classes everyday either. Schedules can be programmed for more math, for example. Beatrice prefers Math and French as her main classes, but she still has time for sports, such as horseback riding. She says, "I think schools are harder in Europe because of the many hours of homework. But if you took an American and a European, both with the same educational background, for some reason the American will be more successful."

Another different thing, according to Beatrice, is the food. She can't believe the amount of chemicals we eat. She says, "when a French woman shops, if she sees anything she doesn't know in the ingredients, she won't buy it."

Beatrice Cozzi

Naturally Beatrice misses certain things back home, but most of all she misses her seven year old sister. Also she talked about missing the weekend dances. When we asked her if they danced to American rock music, she replied, "of course!"

Carmen Torres is a senior who comes from Peru through the AFS exchange program. Carmen lives in Chiclayo, which is called the "friendly city". It is twelve hours north of Lima, the capitol, and is on the coast.

Carmen has been to New York for an AFS orientation and to Sacramento with her host family. "I like my host family," says Carmen, "but I miss my own. I have never been away from them. Like when we go on vacation, we always go together and I always speak Spanish to them."

That may account for the difficulty she encounters in class. According to Carmen, classwork here have the same degree of difficulty as the work in Peru, but finds that it is more difficult for her here because of the language barrier she faces. She says that the teachers "talk too fast". Carmen, like other Peruvian students, learned English in school, but she also went to an insitute to learn English. Carmen has already finished high school in Peru. She went to a private school for girls and says that, "there are only a few co-ed schools in Peru". Carmen notes that schools are different in Peru. For example, a student only goes to the same class a few days a week and it starts at 8:00 and ends at 1:40. Also, students do not choose their own courses. Sports, for instance, is

Carmen Torres and Kresimir Vlasic

required for all students, and students learn up to three sports a year, such as gymnastics, track, and basketball. Carmen enjoys swimming the most. She also enjoys playing the guitar and piano.

Carmen will stay at El Cerrito for a year and will return to Peru in July to attend a university.

Another student joining the AFS crowd is Kresimir Vlasic. His hometown is Pulbula, Yugoslavia which is located on the tip of a pennisula in the Mediterranean Ocean.

Kresh says that he became interested in AFS about a year ago when many students signed up to go to America. The selection of students is based mainly on grades.

His first day in America was in New York where AFS had an orientation on August 12.

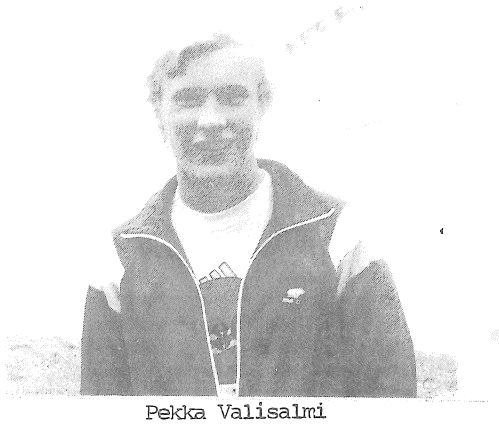
The school days in Yugoslavia are from 8:00 to at the most 2:00. Kresh knows that the classes at home are more demanding, yet the classes here are hard for him because of the language barrier. But he is becoming more fluent everyday.

Unlike other exchange students, Kresh will receive credit for his courses at El Cerrito. Besides taking a full schedule of math and science, Kresh is busy because he has a job after school. He claims that he would like to have more time, so he could play basketball and maybe the piano. The kind of music he likes to listen to are the Beatles, U2 and the Police. When asked, what he thought of Americans he said he really didn't know yet because of how short a time he has lived here. But he did want to say ," People over here know very little about geography, I wish more people knew where Yugoslavia was. But more than that I wish my friends back home could see what I see. America is very different yet I like it very much. I wish my friends were here, because it will be impossible to explain it all when I get home."

Pekka Valisalmi is a senior from Finland. He has been staying here for about two months with his host family in Berkeley. In a few months he will stay with a family in Kensington and later with another family in El Cerrito. He is happy with his current host family with whom he gets along well. "They are very nice people," says Pekka.

Back in Finland, Pekka lives in Pori where he shares his life with two older brothers, an older sister and his parents. He enjoys sailing in the summer because of his fondness of the sea. During the winter, he has fun downhill skiing and playing hockey. He also has an interest in computers, but admits that he " hasn't touched one since he's been here."

Although there are no major differences between Finland and the United States Pekka notes that," the people are so open and nice here in America, whereas the Europeans are more self-centered." A difference also occurs when talking about the two schools systems. Twelve subjects is an average load for a student in Finland. Students go to different classes each day so there is a total of 30 classes a week. Pekka says that," The classes here are so easy compared to European schools." In Europe, advanced courses are taught early. For example, says Pekka ," I had Chemistry, Physics, and Calculus by the 10th grade."



Pekka Valisalmi

In the two months that he has been here, Pekka has seen LA, Lake Tahoe, Disneyland and Seattle. " I might not go to the East Coast," says Pekka , "but I wish to see the rest of California before I leave."

When asked why he wanted to come to America, Pekka replied, "One of the reasons is that I wanted to learn English. Also I wanted to see different places and meet different people." Pekka will return to Finland next summer but for now, he is not anxious to get home, says Pekka," I am not home sick yet."

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EL CABALLERO

VOLUME LXXVI NO. 6 | EL CERRITO HIGH SCHOOL | MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 1984

Counselors visit classes

Counselors will visit 9th, 10th, and 11th grade English classes during the first weeks of February to set up students' programs for next year. To give students an idea of what courses are available and what their options are, the El Caballero compiled a list of course descriptions. Next year, two new courses, Oral English and German I, will be offered; however they will exist only if enough students sign up for them.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Thanks to the efforts of our principal, Mrs. Anna Blackman and Computer Programming Instructors Mrs. Mayfield and Mr. Mackey, El Cerrito High has begun to build an excellent computer program. Mrs. Blackman has often stressed the importance of a computer education since they will be a major part of life in almost everyone's future. Currently, there are four classes being offered at ECHS. But, next year's computer program will replace this year's beginner's class, Computer Literacy, with a course that will deal more with working with software and how to utilize computers in every day life. The other three classes, however, will still be offered. According to Mrs. Mayfield, next year's computer curriculum "won't just be directed toward the students who want to be computer programmers, but it will be for all students."

Computer Science I.

This class require a "C" or better in Computer Literacy or the teacher's consent. In this course, students begin to learn how to program using BASIC. Exploration of word processors, spreadsheets and data base management systems will also be covered.

Computer Science II

This course is somewhat similiar to Computer Science I, but is more advanced, and basicallly a continuation of Computer Science I.

Advanced Computer Science

This is the most advanced course in computers offered at ECHS. It covers structure programming using PASCAL-- topics required for the Advanced Placement Examination in Computer Science. Students interested in this class must have had taken Computer Science or must obtain the consent of the instructor.

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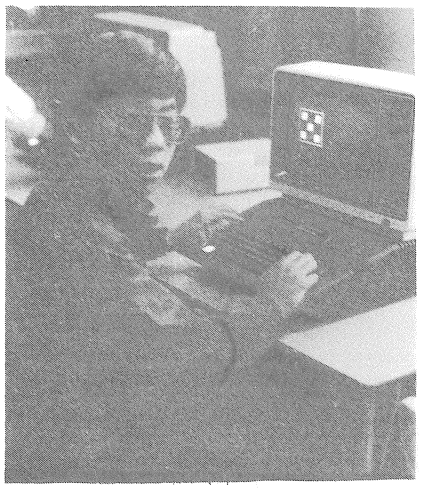

Student shows skill at programming.

ENGLISH

Thinking about getting into the act next year by taking a drama course? Or thinking about making a name for yourself by enrolling in a journalism class? The English department offers these classes in addition to required English.

Journalism I

This course prepares students to work on the production of the El Caballero. Students learn the different styles of newswriting, principles of news gathering, lay out and about the rules and regulations pertaining to the legal aspects of newswriting. "After they learn the different styles of newswriting, those who show potential are encouraged to work on the production of El Caballero," says Mr. Francisco, who teaches Journalism I.

Journalism II

This course is a continuation of Journalism I; the basic skills acquired in Journalism I are applied in Journalism II. Students run and supervise the class. they produce the school paper; they do the writing, typing, layout, and proofreading. Although students make the decisions, Mr. Francisco, the advisor for the class, has to approve. El Caballero also puts out the year-end Senior Edition.

Drama

According to Drama Teacher Ms. Knoll, there will be major changes in the Drama Department next year: the separation of beginning and advanced drama students and possibly many more minor productions throughout the year. This year Ms. Knoll had hoped that Drama I and Advanced Drama would be separate classes; however, the two classes had to combine because there were not enough sign-ups for either class. According to Ms. Knoll, one reason for the separation of the classes is, "there are a lot of things you can't teach with a group that large." There are 35 students enrolled in Drama.

continued on next column

Drama I

This is your basic drama course for the student new to acting. Students start out by playing theatre games and work in groups to overcome stage fright. Students will learn the different types of acting such as pantomine. At the end of the year, Drama I students will produce a one act play. Ms. Knoll hopes to take field trips to see plays in San Francisco and Berkeley theatres with the Drama I students.

Drama Productions

This course is for advanced Drama students and for those serious about acting. Students learn about the different acting techniques; the course will cover units on Shakespeare and musical theatre. The class will produce the fall and spring shows. Students in Advanced Drama will also take field trips, including a trip to the Shakespeare Festival in Oregon. They will also participate in the Shakespeare Festival at Cal State. To enroll in Drama Production, the student needs the consent of Ms. Knoll.

Stagecraft

Ms. Knoll hopes that Stagecraft will be offered next year. students design sets and construct props for production. They also make costumes for plays. "Stagecraft is a fun and relaxing break in the day," says Ms. Knoll.

Ready for college level English? If you will be a senior next year, you may take Advanced Placement (AP) English in place of regular English 4. Two different AP courses will be offered: English Language and Composition, whose emphasis is on writing, and Literature and Composition whose focus is on literature and critical analysis.

for juniors and sophmores, there is also an alternative to regular English. The course is Oral English and according to Vice Principal Erikson," It will be a very, very rigorous and demanding program, and will be equal to Honors English II or III." Descriptions for Oral English and AP English begin on the next page.

SPECIAL ELECTIVES EDITION

English Language and Composition

Ms. Cone, who teaches English Language and Composition says, "This course is basically a rhetorics course. Students read and write essays- argumentive and expository." Over the summer, students will be assigned literature to read which they will later write about. Students will study prose from various periods and fields which will serve as models for effective writing. Writing assignments will be given that calls for the use of different styles and tones. The main focus of the course is to prepare the student for the kinds of English he will take in college and to prepare him for the College Board examination given in May. Depending on the college, students who do well on the test will be granted credit or appropriate placement or both. Although each college and school within the University of California do does not grant the same credits, they all give some credit to students who scored at least a 3 (5 is the highest score) on the AP test.

'83-'84 is the first year that English Language and Composition is taught at ECHS. Mrs. Cone says, "I feel really good about the way it's going. The only thing that I want to change next year has to do with the summer assignment. Instead of assigning writing, I will assign reading."

Literature and Composition

Mrs. Vittone teaches AP literature; she says, "This course is f[illegible] those who enjoy reading, critical analysis, and working with language...We are looking for hardworking students, those who are not afraid of hard work." There are reading assigments over the summer; Mrs. Vittone "tentatively knows" what they are: Pride and Prejudice, Heart of Darkness, and Othello. She also urges the students to become familiar with the Bible and Mythology, since they are both important sources for AP Literature. The main focus of the class is close reading and critical analysis; the student analyze the writer's style and his own style. "By investigating the writer's syntax, you discover techniques you would overlook otherwise... this provides the students with insights for formulating his own style." The class materials are: The Bear, A Doll's House, Volpone, Dubliners, A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Oedipus the King, and Streetcar Named Desire. The choice of books and the reading and discussion approaches are modeled after the Univerity of California's English 1A and 1B. Yes, AP English is a lot of hard work, but it will pay off. According to Ms. Vittone, those who score 4 or 5, will be exempt from taking English 1A and 1B and Subject A at Cal. A score of 3 takes care of English 1A and 1B and depending on the college, those who score a 2 may earn as much as 6 semester units in Humanities.

Oral English

This class is for student who wishes to improve his or her speaking ability or wishes to overcome shyness. The course will be taught by Mrs. Berman. It will cover philosophy and freedom of speech with emphasis on analysis of materials such as On Liberty, Aeropagitoea, and selections from Aristotle. The class will develop techniques of oral composition for exposition, persuasion, oratory and debate. Mrs. Berman stresses that the course is not just for forensics competitors, but is for any student who is willing to work. Students are also given extensive practice in outlining, vocabulary development and research skills. Although the class stresses oral work, students will be made to turn in extensive written work and read approximately eight books to fulfill the requirements for English II or III. Approval from the instructor is needed to participate in the class.

Jennifer Wong and Paul Brody of Journalism II work hard to put out the next edition of the El Caballero.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

The Social Science Department offers a variety of classes. The courses share the characteristics of provoking thoughts and awareness. According to Ms. Taylor, a Social Science teacher, "The overall focus of the Social Science classes is to get people to think, to make them become aware of the social environment, to look at the past and present as a way to improve the future, to improve the student's writing, reading, and thinking skills, and to help make students better citizens." This department has done its job well; year after year, many ECHS graduates come back to tell the teachers how American Experience, among other social science courses, has helped them.

Psychology

This class focuses on the individual. The issues concern personal identity, personality, growth and development, and so forth. This class is open to everyone, but Mr. Rossi notes that the majority of the students in the class are 11th and 12th graders.

Anthropology

Anthropology is the study of man. According to Mrs. Taylor, the last time it was taught at ECHS was approximately ten years ago. The reason for this is the lack of sign ups. Mrs Taylor suspects the enrollment is low because students do not know what anthropology is. If you are curious about man's development, think about taking anthropolgy and revive a wonderful course.

Economics

This course studies the economic system of the U.S.. "This class is good for anyone who is interested in his own estate," says Mr. Burris, Economics instructor. The class also provides knowledge about business and covers subjects such as real estate and stock. Mr. Burris points out that this course is good preparation for economics courses in college. He also adds, "Everyone should understand something about today's economy."

US History Advanced Placement

This semester course prepares students for the College Board examination given in May. Depending on the college, a student may receive credits if he does well on the test. "The class is an intensive review of American history based on reading of six books which interpret different aspects of American history," stated Mr. Rossi who teaches this course. As a supplement, Mr. Rossi gives series of lectures.

Leadership

This is the first year Leadership is offered at ECHS. Leadership, opened to everyone, is a semester class for elected school officers and concerned students. Leadership focuses on communication skills, management, and leadership skills. Leadership also provides time for the officers to plan activities Jennifer Rogers, Commissioner of Social Affairs says, "The class is good because it is a real big help to the officers." Indeed, many school officers are grateful to have this class.

More on next page

Counselors will visit classes Feb. 6

GET SERIOUS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE

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International Problems

This course looks at the major problems in the world. "It's a course designed to look at current events from an international perspective," says Mr. Greene who teaches this course. The class also discusses, debates, and analyzes the problems. "It's a class that I'd like to see as a requirement," states Mr. Greene.

Comparative Government

This course studies current issues and problems. The text for the class is US News and World Report. One of the valuable aspects of the course is that it helps the students develop the "news habit", since to do well in the class, they have to be familiar with the current events.

Minorities in America

This is a one year course. The first semester is devoted to the study of Blacks in America, their origins, contributions, and roles. The second semester looks at other minorities-women, Chicanos, Asians, the disabled and handicapped, the elderly, etc.. Mr Greene comments on the course, "I prefer to call it (Minorities in America) 'History of the Cultural Contributions of Minority Groups in America'." Mr. Greene says the course is for everyone, not just minorities. "Sometimes people from one minority group do not understand another minority. They only know their own history," says Mr. Greene, "The bottom line of the class is that we should emphasize our similiarities instead of our differences."

Sociology

This class is offered to grades 10-12. "The focus of this course is on interpersonal relationships," says Ms. Hebden who teaches Sociology. The study of roles, marriage, family relationships, and family problems are covered.

Sociology Intro

Ms. Hebden also teaches Sociology Intro. She points out this class focuses more on personal problems of teenagers. Issues like venereal disease, dating, and family problems of teenagers are discussed. This course is offered to grades 9th-10th.

World Culture

World Culture will be offered next year to 12th graders and to 10th and 11th graders with the instructor's permission. Mrs. Gravett, the instructor, says the class "focuses on the future world". They also study how man is changing physically, in technology, in medicine, and in city planning. During the course the students get to build thier own idea of a futuristic city. The students also develope their own alphabet with which they use in putting together a paper called the "Martian Chronicle". The students, under the guidance of Mrs. Gravett, look at past "fortune tellers" and see if the world is heading in the direction that they predicted. This class is for the type of person who is creative and likes to speculate. Mrs. Gravett is very excited about this class and hopes for a lot of sign ups.

California History

This course studies the history of- you guessed it- good 'ol California. It looks at the history from the time of the California Indians to the present. Current issues such as education and employment in California are also discussed. According to one student, "It's failry interesting and it's not a hard course."

Mr. Rossi gives his expertise.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Ever think about taking a course in a foreign language?? The graduating class of 1987 will be required to take one year of either Fine Arts or Foreign language.

A new addition to the Foreign Language Department is German I. This class will be taught by Mr. Sigg, an English teacher at ECHS. Mr. Sigg is a native speaker of German and he says he would enjoy teaching it.

French, Spanish: I-VI

The first three years emphasize reading, writing, and speaking on a beginning level. French 4-6 are on a advanced level and the students start to read books in French and the classes are conducted in French. Madame Hart says, "The longer you take the language the more interesting it gets."

Latin

This is a new course and will be offered in levels 1-2. The administration is hoping for a lot of sign ups so they won't have to cancel as they did last year. Beginning Latin is taught with an emphasis on vocabulary, grammar, and reading. It includes some history and culture as well as oral drilling and conversation.

German I

This course will focus on basic German pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary. During the first semester, Mr. Sigg plans to emphasize the use of daily language and conversation useful for travel. The second semester will include reading and writing to prepare students for more advanced classes in college or high school.

Although German I will be the only German class offered next school year, Mr. Sigg has high hopes for the coming years. "If enough students sign up for German I next year, we will have German II, III, and ultimately (German) IV," he says. However, Mr. Sigg speculates that there needs to be two German classes for German I to remain part of the curriculum because some students may want to drop out and if there are two German classes, "we'll have some assurances." The class is open to all students "We have only two foreign languages currently," says Mr. Sigg, "it would be nice to have more than that."

If a German class is not offered next year, Mr. Sigg will sponsor a German club.

SCIENCE

In order to fulfill graduation requirements or prepare for college or both, students must take science courses. The Science Department has a wide range of courses to choose from.

Biology, Health Science, Science

These are the most basic courses. Biology is the study of living organisms and what makes them tick. Research into the nature of DNA and reproduction are major parts of the course. Biology is required for most advanced science courses. Health science contains information on human body systems, family life education, consumer awareness, and environmental issues that concern health. Science contains some elements of biology and/or physical science. This course is basically for those students who are only interested in satisfying science requirements for graduation. These classes have no prerequisites and are open to all grade levels.

Laboratory Science

This course is a step above these basic science courses. Lab Science is also open to all grade levels; however, in order to get in to the class you must have a high interest in science and a teacher must recommend you. Lab Science is not an easy class. It mainly deals with experiments and almost all of the class time is spent doing them. Mr. Tobin recommends the class to those who like to be challenged. In his words, "It's a mind stretcher."

Physics

Physics is the study of how the world around us works. Newton's laws, physical properties, and other theories are studied. Experiments are

Continued on next page

REMINDER:

SENIOR WILLS DEADLINE FEB. 17

Continued from previous page

conducted to gain insights on those theories and laws. According to Tim Chan, junior,"Right now we are learning about sound and it's neat." Physics also involves math and is complicated, so you must be a junior or senior to take it.

Chemistry

Chemistry is the study of matter and how it behaves. All sorts of fun experiments are conducted to gain knowledge about assorted substances."I like Ms. Mayfield, she's a trip," states one student. Math is a fairly large part of the course so it's only open to sophomores and above.

Marine Biology

Marine Biology is the study of the sea and the things that live there. There is even a unit on geology and the theory of global tectonics.

Advanced Placement Biology

This is a strong academic course that will help seniors develop the study skills needed for success in college. Biology is a very interesting and exciting subject, especially at this time; new breakthroughs made everyday. According to Ms. Peterson, if a student is motivated and have developed good study skills, he should be able to do well in this course. AP Biology also prepares students for the College Board exam in May. Depending on the college and his score, the student can receive credits.

CONSUMER HOME ECONOMICS

Have you ever tried Jumping Jack Flash or the Salty Dog? Have you ever had the Munchies or a Grease problem? These aren't dances or eating disorders. These are some of the new computer programs that the Consumer Home Economics Department is using in its classes. The district Consumer Home Economics department started using computers in their curriculum four years ago. They now own four computers for seven high schools and plan ro purchase two more next year. This means that each high school's CHE Department will soon have its own Apple IIe computer.

Our Consumer Home Economics students use the computer to see if they're eating the right foods for growth, to compute sales tax properly, to set up an imaginary Hot Dog Stand, all practical, everyday experiences. Of course, a CHE student will also get some practical experience in preparing food and using sewing machines.

All the classes are taught by Ms. Janet Smith. An adult tutor, Ms. Donata Hubert, is also on hand to assist students.

Some day, all of you will be own. Will you be prepared? Classes taught in the Consumer Home Economics Department will prepare you for real life!

Science unfolds many discoveries.

Clothing I,II

This class teaches the techniques of clothing construction, and is offered to grades 10-12, and students can proceed at their own speed.

Foods 1&2

This class emphasizes nutrition, techniques of preparation and the planning of nutritious meals. Foods 1 is offered to grades 9-12 and Foods 2, to 10-12.

Cooking For Two

This is a fall semester course and is intended to help the career, college or married person.

Foreign Foods

This is a spring semester course and students must be interested in exploring unfamiliar foods. This class is for grades 11-12.

MATH

Numbers! Variables! Quadratic equations! It's all here in the ECHS's math department. All you need to do is choose which one of the many courses best fits your needs.

Algebra

There are courses for those just getting started in math and who plan to continue. The first of these classes one would take is Algebra i. This class is an introduction to solving equations, factoring, equations of lines, slopes and other fascinating and useful concepts.

Geometry

After completing Algebra, most students move on to geometry. This is the study of shapes and figures, logical proofs and using equations of lines, etc.

Geometry Concepts

For those who find geometry hard, they can now take Geometry Concepts. This class covers the same material as Geometry but moves at a slower pace.

Algebra II

The primary aim of the class is to expand on the concepts learned in Algebra 1. In addition it covers trignometry.

Math Analysis

This class is a continuation of Algebra II. It also prepares students for Calculus. Mr. Berman teaches Math Analysis; according one student, "He (Mr. Berman) really keeps you awake."

Calculus

For the truly dedicated math student calculus is next on the list. This is a high level course that most high school students do not usually take until they get into college. The student who takes Calculus may take an Ap test given in May that may earn him college credits, depending on the college and his score. Dedication and preserverance are required and armed with these qualities, you can go far in the E.C. math courses.

MUSIC

ECHS has one of the finest instrumental music departments in the area. Although they offer good classes, there has been a lack of students interested in taking a music course and according to Mr. Gray, music instructor, this is due to the fact that the junior high schools cut out their music programs. The department has already cut out six classes, including Beginning Band and Mr. Gray "doesn't see any chance of keeping the guitar class." Despite the lack of sign-ups, Mr. Gray and Mr. Clark, also a music teacher have faith that the rest of the classes will remain. He concludes. "We'll be

Continued on next page, 1st column

WATCH FOR OUR BLACK HISTORY WEEK EDITION IN FEBRUARY.

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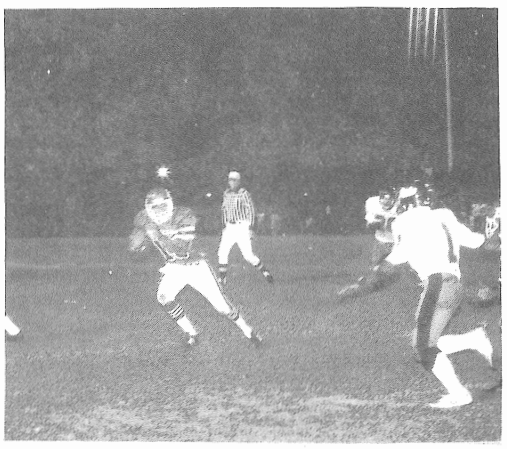
Gauchos sink Pirates

by Robby Momono

It took a rugged and determined Gaucho defense to turn back the Pittsburg Pirates 20-14, in El Cerrito's first home night game in two years.

El Cerrito's new lights attracted a large home crowd but three third quarter turnovers had Gaucho followers shaking their heads in disgust. With E.C. down 14-12, the mighty defense rose to the occasion and prevented the Pirates from scoring.

El Cerrito's first third quarter turnover gave Pittsburg the ball at the Gaucho 44 yard line. The Pirates advanced to the E.C. 23 but on fourth down senior defensive back Eugene Hilliard stopped Pittsburg quarterback Mike Crespo a yard shy of the first down.



Gaucho quarterback Brad Brown evades Pirate defense.

Two plays later, E.C. fumbled the ball and Pittsburg recovered at the Gaucho 29 yard line. The Pirates made little progress and missed a 42 yard field goal wasting a chance to add to their slim two point advantage.

The Gauchos immediately fumbled again and Pittsburg took control at the E.C. 28. Two plays later, E.C. defensive back Matt Pruitt stole a Crespo pass and raced 57 yards to the Pirate 24 yard line.

After five consecutive running plays, Torey Lovett busted into the end zone for the touchdown and later scored the two point conversion giving El Cerrito the 20-14 win.

In the first half, it looked like E.C. might run away with it as Hilliard intercepted a Crespo pass and ran 25 yards for the Gaucho's first score. The conversion was blocked but El Cerrito led 6-0.

Pittsburg scored on a Crespo run with 2:57 left in the first quarter and the conversion made it 7-6 Pirates. Crespo later scored on a sneak and Pittsburg converted to lead 14-6.

CONTINUED BOTTOM OF NEXT COLUMN

E.C. tennis star Carolyn Wei.

Wei leads the way

by Craig Wong

The El Cerrito High Women's tennis team has hit it's first major obstacle. Sue Rosenthal, last year's coach of both the men's and women's tennis team, is unable to return as coach because of personal problems. So far, the team has been unable to find a new coach.

If the team does manage to get a coach, the future looks bright. The top four singles players are returning, along with many of the other players. The spotlight, however, will be centered on senior Carolyn Wei who is returning from a one year leave of absence. Wei, is a ranked player in Nortern California in the under-18's. She has played in tournaments throughout the summer and has been very successful. Wei won seven of the eight tournaments she entered this summer, the latest being at the Harbor Isles Tennis Club in Alameda. She doesn't know how well the team will do this year, but when she was asked about the competition coming from the league, she said, " Well, I don't know how good the other teams are, but Berkeley has an awesome team. We'll get stomped! " she added with a laugh.

Another bright spot for the Lady Gauchos is the depth of the team. Over fifteen girls showed up for the first meeting. Unlike last year, the women's tennis team may have a junior varsity team. This will add valuble depth to the team. This, along with all of the returning players, and strong play from Wei, will hopefully make the Gauchos a team to contend with.

E.C. responded with tight end Bobby Joseph making a 21 yard reception setting up a Lovett touchdown burst. The conversion failed and Pittsburg led 14-12 at the half.

record

and play host to Washington of Fremont tonight at 7:30pm.

GAUCHO NOTES: El Cerrito won their season opener against Vintage 14-3 in Napa. The Gaucho defense was led by Mike Thomas and Marlon Perry. Offensively, Torey Lovett ran for 64 yards on 11 carries and Shaun Mitchell had 33 yards in five tries.

X-Country expects winning season

by Veli Lehman

The 1985 Gaucho X-country team competed in the San Francisco Invitational on September 21, the first meet of the season. The men's team ran excellent placing 2nd while the women's team won the invitational. First year coach Helen Lehman believes that this is an indication of how the season will proceed.

The men's varsity team, much improved over last year placed 2nd, behind the always strong Bellermine team. Alex Da Silva led the Gauchos with his 2nd place finish. El Cerrito Anthony John placed an outstanding 4th, Stuart Wiseman 9th, Steve Turnipseed 11th, Morgan Mc Clarty 21st and Ray Yokoi 33rd to rounded out the high placing Gaucho team. Coach Lehman stated that with this teams "depth and talent it will achieve far and above what it did last year." In the Sophomore competion Danyal Payne finished 14th.

The women's team outscored Half Moon Bay 37 to 55 (lowest score wins) to win the invitational. 1983 and 1984 league champion Teresa Poy led the Gaucho's with her strong 3rd place finish. 1985 track stand-out Debbie Binnall placed 4th, Marisa Gardella making a wrong turn and running 50 extra yards was 7th and Veli Lehman fighting illness was 8th. Veteran runners Rosie Stoneall 26, and Jenny Kakigi 29 rounded out the winning varsity team. In the Freshman race Lori Okamura placed 5th and Erin Wiseman was 15th.

The Gauchos hope to continue their winning season at the Westmoor Invitational on September 28 and the Artichoke Invitational on October 5.

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BRING THIS AD

NEWS

Music mix CONTINUED

To put it bluntly, more new wave and top forty-- I do not mean that I want the music to be entirely so, but I do not want it to be mostly soul, as it has been as long as I've attended ECHS.

Our school is filled with a variety of people from all nationalities, economic standings, lifestyles and tastes; that's what makes our school so special--our diversity. And I believe it should be reflected in the mix of music at school sponsored events.

I do not have a definite solution to this problem other than getting a group of students together, especially student D.J.'s and the Social Director to talk about it. Many students may not even consider the mix a problem, but there are many students that are not satisfied, and since the music often makes the event a success or not-- the lack of variety may influence some student's decisions not to attend school functions. Which in turn would detract from the school's unity and spirit, something I'm sure no one would like to happen. I urge you to voice your opinion to the Student Association and class officers, or in the El Caballero, and perhaps a compromise can be made.

Class changes will solve over-enrollment

by Carol Tang

Some things never change. Year after year, school starts and we discover that once again, El Cerrito High School has an overenrollment problem. This year is no exception. We have over 100 more students than the district expected. As a result, mid-term class changes will need to be made to alleviate the overenrollment problem.

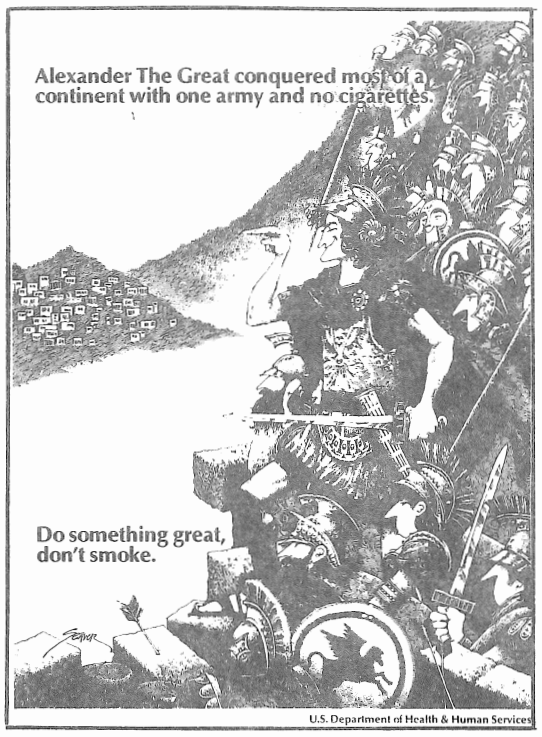
The district has finally approved the faculty additions that are so badly needed. The new classes will be created starting Monday. This means that massive numbers of class schedule changes will need to be made. Interviews for another counselor are also being conducted.

CONTINUED NEXT COLUMN

It seems that every year, Principal Mrs. Blackman makes a very good estimation of the number of students ECHS will have. However, the downtown offices project a smaller number and assign teachers and counselors according to their own numbers. They predicted that ECHS would have less than 1,600 students. E.C. now has more than 1,700. Before the new classes could be created with new teachers and a new counselor, the ECHS administration needed to prove the number of students now attending school.

Meanwhile, some classes have 47 students, which is much higher than the legal limit of 38, or 31 in English classes. Administrative Vice-Principal Mr. Boles believes that the large classes detract form "the positive learning atmosphere" of ECHS.

The counselors also have a work load that is larger than the their contracted limit of 500. The personnel department believed that three counselors would be enough, so they left Mr. Mahan's post empty after he retired at the end of last year. Interviews for the position are now being conducted. For now, Mahan has been rehired on a part-time basis to help out during the "crunch." The counselors have been spending many long and hard hours trying to finish all the work that needs to be done. Counselors Mr. Becker and Mrs. Cannon have been working after-school in the cafeteria making program changes for individuals. In addition, they were still making new schedules for new enrollees. Becker knows that the many program changes that he is forced to make cause unhappiness in many students. These disruptions, however, will need to made year after year as long as the district continues with its inaccurate projections.


Alexander The Great conquered most of a continent with one army and no cigarettes.
Do something great, don't smoke.
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

New deans CONTINUED

when he becomes conscious of school again. This is not to say that he does not enjoy his work. Actually, he really enjoys coming to work.

Abreu agrees with Ms. Wilbur that the STUDENT HANDBOOK is very helpful for everyone. As a matter of fact, Abreu helped in writing the Basic Commitment Policy. Regardless, he plans to treat each student that comes to him equally.

Got something to say?

If you have anything worth saying to the students and faculty, the EL CABALLERO is the place to say it. This is a student paper that is distributed around the school. Since all of you are here at ECHS, you have a right to use this paper to express your opinions. We would like to hear from you. So if you want to:

-voice your opinions

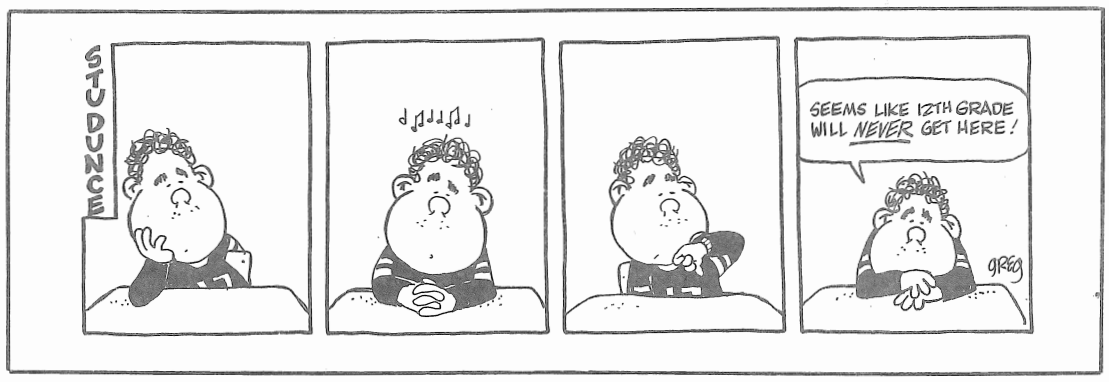
-comment about our stories

-get a point across to everyone else

-change something

-or just see your name in print, then let us hear from you. bring your editorials, articles, story ideas, pictures, comments, cartoons, complaints, or anything else to Room 404. We want responses to our editorials and other issues concerning teenagers or ECHS.

C'mon, we need you!



Good luck Gauchos against Huskies !